



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 9, 2021

**Dallas County Reports 3,194 New Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases,
a New Record High and 10 Deaths, including 901 Probable Cases**

DALLAS -- As of 12:00 pm January 9, 2021, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 3,194 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Dallas County, 2,293 confirmed cases and 901 probable cases. There is a cumulative total of 190,580 confirmed cases (PCR test). There is a cumulative total of 24,393 probable cases (antigen test). A total of 1,766 Dallas County residents have lost their lives due to COVID-19 illness.

The additional deaths being reported today include the following:

- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Cedar Hill. He expired in an area hospital ED and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Cedar Hill. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of the City of Mesquite. She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long term care facility in the City of Carrollton. She had been critically ill in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been hospitalized in an area hospital and had underlying high risk health conditions.

The provisional seven-day average of daily new confirmed and probable cases (by date of test collection) for CDC week 53 was to **2,104**, which is a rate of **79.8** daily new cases per 100,000 residents—the highest case rate in Dallas County since the beginning of the pandemic. The percentage of respiratory specimens testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 remains high, with **31.0%** of symptomatic patients presenting to area hospitals testing positive in week 53 (week ending 1/2/21). Since the beginning of the pandemic, over 3,864 healthcare workers and first responders have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in Dallas County.

Over the past 30 days, there have been 5,309 COVID-19 cases in school-aged children and staff reported from 677 separate K-12 schools in Dallas County, including 454 staff members. There are currently 109

active long-term care facility outbreaks. This is the highest number of long-term care facilities with active outbreaks reported in Dallas County since the beginning of the pandemic. A total of 3,286 residents and 1,871 healthcare workers in long-term facilities in Dallas have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Of these, 378 have died. About 22% of all deaths reported to date have been associated with long-term care facilities. Forty-two outbreaks of COVID-19 in congregate-living facilities (e.g. homeless shelters, group homes, and halfway homes) have been reported in the past 30 days associated with 114 cases.

Of all confirmed cases requiring hospitalization to date, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. New cases are being reported as a daily aggregate, with more detailed summary reports updated Tuesday and Friday evenings are available at:

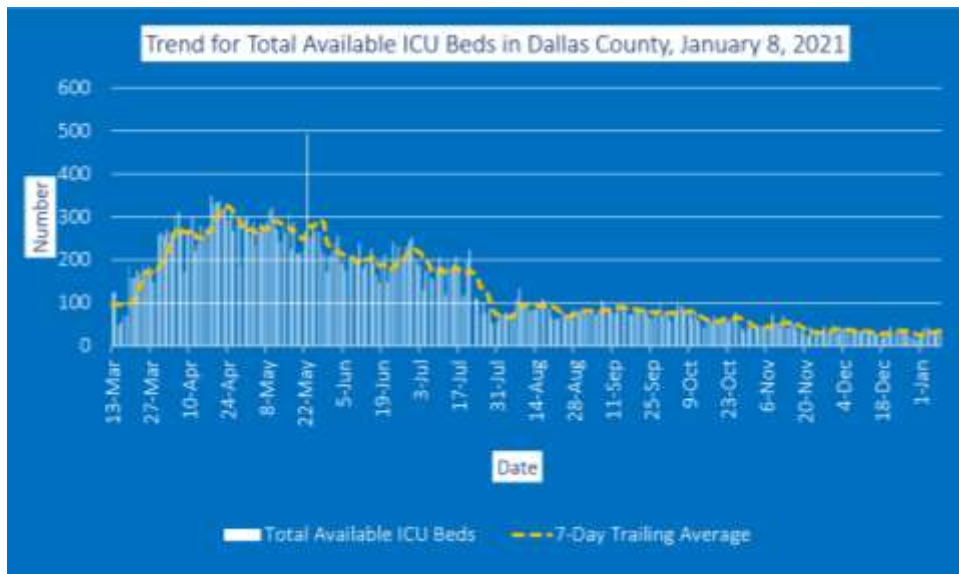
<https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus/daily-updates.php>.

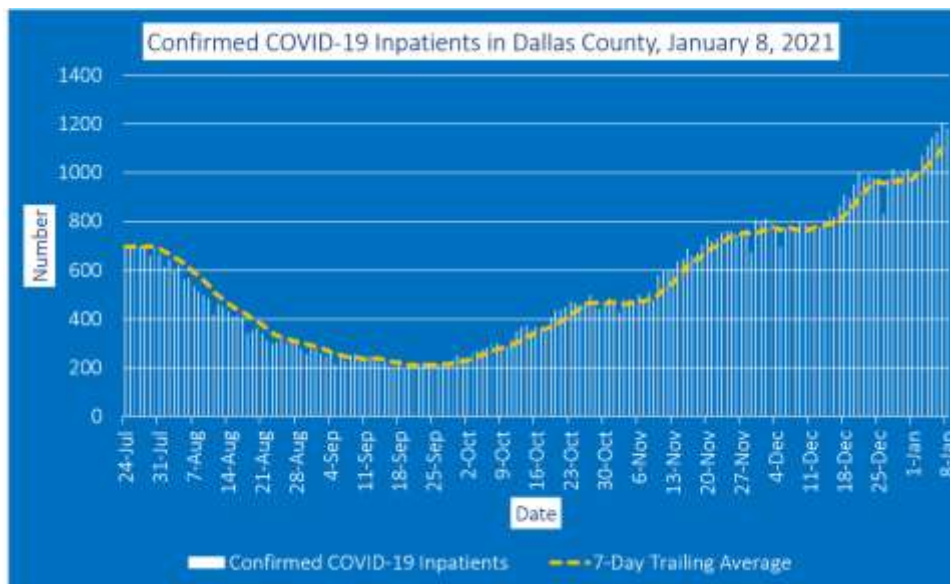
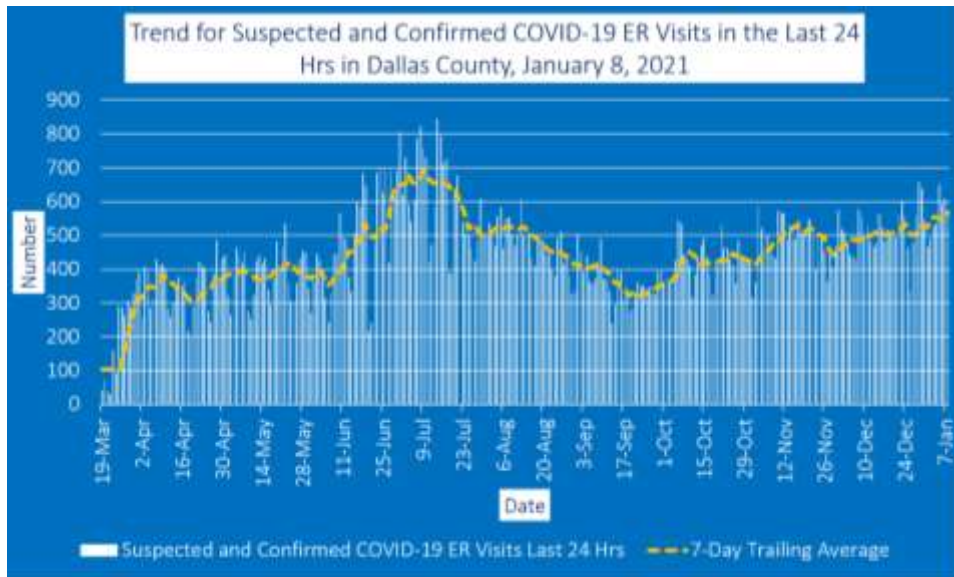
Local health experts use hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and ER visits as three of the key indicators as part of determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. There were 1,183 COVID-19 patients in acute care in Dallas County for the period ending on Friday, January 8. The number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County was 561 for the same time-period, which represents around 23 percent of all emergency department visits in the county according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council. Hospitalizations remain near record highs and continue to place extensive strain on our facilities and staff. UTSW modeling predicts hospitalization to reach 1,150 – 1,870 by January 19, with cases as high as 3,500/day by the same date. Their model also indicates increase in ICU utilization, which remains a concern as capacity remains extremely limited at current demand. You can find additional information on risk-level monitoring data [here](#).

On December 3, Trauma Service Area E (TSA E), which includes Dallas County and the greater Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, reached seven consecutive days where the percentage of COVID-19 confirmed patients in regional hospitals, as a percentage of available hospital beds, exceeded 15 percent. According to Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-32 (GA-32), this makes TSA E an area with high hospitalizations and certain occupancy reductions are automatically triggered by reaching this threshold.

Additionally, the chart below is from the January 8, 2021 Dallas County Health and Human Services 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Summary. The chart shows a summary of confirmed and probable cases and deaths since late June in Dallas County.

CDC Week	Week Ending	Total Confirmed and Probable Cases	Total School-Aged Cases (5 to 17 years)	Daily Average New Confirmed and Probable Cases*	Daily Average New Confirmed and Probable Deaths**	Percentage of Tests Positive for SARS-CoV-2***
25	6/20/2020	5,853	472	836	5	26.9%
26	6/27/2020	8,618	647	1,231	8	30.5%
27	7/4/2020	8,943	699	1,278	9	30.0%
28	7/11/2020	9,190	864	1,313	9	26.6%
29	7/18/2020	6,604	688	943	12	21.7%
30	7/25/2020	4,521	493	646	15	19.3%
31	8/1/2020	3,347	417	478	12	15.9%
32	8/8/2020	2,844	320	406	9	14.0%
33	8/15/2020	2,158	183	308	9	13.2%
34	8/22/2020	1,757	187	251	7	11.2%
35	8/29/2020	2,198	188	314	6	10.8%
36	9/5/2020	2,066	162	295	4	10.5%
37	9/12/2020	1,870	198	267	3	9.7%
38	9/19/2020	2,243	239	320	2	11.4%
39	9/26/2020	2,499	261	357	3	10.7%
40	10/3/2020	2,659	306	380	2	10.0%
41	10/10/2020	3,584	453	512	3	11.5%
42	10/17/2020	4,483	555	640	3	14.3%
43	10/24/2020	5,312	692	759	5	15.1%
44	10/31/2020	5,448	617	778	7	15.0%
45	11/7/2020	7,755	947	1,108	7	15.3%
46	11/14/2020	10,132	1,311	1,447	10	20.3%
47	11/21/2020	10,107	1,230	1,444	8	21.2%
48	11/28/2020	8,583	907	1,226	11	21.4%
49	12/5/2020	12,105	1,694	1,729	9	25.0%
50	12/12/2020	12,258	1,671	1,751	7	23.4%
51	12/19/2020	12,887	1,628	1,841	6	26.6%
52	12/26/2020	11,868	1,324	1,695	5	27.5%
53	1/2/2021	14,727	1,742	2,104	6	31.0%





“Today we break 3,000 new COVID cases for the first time. This is 350 cases more than we’ve ever seen on a single day before. This closes this week as our second deadliest week for COVID as we announce 10 more deaths today. Our positivity rate is also at a new all-time high at 31% and our daily average of new cases reached an all-time high of 2,104 for CDC week 53, ending January 2. All of these numbers are leading to a

lack of hospital bed capacity and a loss of your best chance for optimum care at our hospitals. Our healthcare heroes and everyone with an underlying condition of any kind needs your help to see us through these darkest days of the COVID pandemic. Wearing your mask, avoiding crowds, washing hands frequently and forgoing get-togethers are all keys to controlling the spread. The vaccine will begin to pay dividends and come alongside of our shared efforts as more and more people get vaccinated, but we must continue to make smart decisions to have our best chance at defeating COVID as soon as possible and getting back to our pre-COVID activities.

I'm very pleased that our vaccine centers will be opening Monday and that thousands of people in the 1B category will receive shots next week by appointment only. The first group of appointments has gone out and more groupings will follow throughout the week and from now on. You need not do anything other than register. You will then be contacted by DCHHS when an appointment is available for you. Please be patient in that Dallas County only has a little over 6,000 vaccines from the State to distribute this week and there are over 123,000 people who have already signed up on the website. We will continue to push for more vaccine from the State and get it out to our residents as soon after we receive it as possible. If we all work together by making smart decisions and registering to be vaccinated, together we will turn the tide in the battle against COVID this year and get back to many of our pre-COVID activities," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins.

All Dallas County COVID-19 Updates and Information can be found here:

<https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/> and all guidance documents can be found here:

<https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/guidance-health.php>

Specific Guidance for the Public:

- [Dallas County COVID-19 Related Health Guidance for the Public](#)
- [Dallas County Measures for Protecting An Institution's Workforce from COVID-19 Infection: Employer/Employee Guidance](#)
- [Dallas County Guidance for Individuals at High-Risk for Severe COVID-19](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends taking everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact outside your home: Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others and continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to seek medical care
- Wash your hands often and with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and help young children to do the same. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-base hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces daily using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands. Immediately wash your hands.
- Monitor your health daily. Be alert for symptoms. Take your temperature and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.

Additional information is available at the following websites:

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- CDC Travel Information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

- DSHS: <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>
- DCHHS: <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus.php>

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